As I noted earlier, Pakistan is our partner in the war on terror and has captured several Al-Qaida leaders. However, it is also a major source of Islamic extremism."

(c) The Government of India has an ongoing dialogue with the U.S. on counter-terrorism.

Time taken for extradition matters

1081. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the average time that Consular Passport and Visa (CPV) Division of External Affairs Ministry takes to react to request from the State Government of Andhra Pradesh regarding extradition matters;

(b) whether it is a fact that the average delay is about eight months to the requests from Andhra Pradesh Government;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the High Commission of India in Singapore also delays extradition requests once it reaches it;

(d) the details of such extradition matters pending in Delhi and Singapore; and

(e) the steps proposed to expedite all such actions?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) Once a request for extradition is recived from a State Government, the matter is considered in the Ministry in consultation with its Legal & Treaties Division. The requests are examined in terms of standard requirements for making a request to a foreign country to secure the presence of a fugitive for trial. If the documents submitted are as per requirements of the State to be requested, the request is promptly submitted to the country concerned. This procedure is applicable to requests received from the State of Andhra Pradesh also.

(b) to (d) No.

(e) Deos not arise.